

# Equipping young people to be vigorous citizens

# e.news

#### Rockin' the City



A landscape of granite domes and spires, the <u>City of Rocks</u> in Southern Idaho is a favorite of climbers, hikers, and history buffs. 150 years earlier, pioneers on the Oregon Trail signed their names with axle grease on the rocks. Today, MCC is leaving its mark, too. Since 1998, MCC has tended to the easily-eroded trails and protected park resources. This year, MCC is developing the trail system at the new <u>Castle Rocks State Park</u> next door to the City of Rocks. Climbing Ranger Brad Schilling sums up members' trail work in one word: "Awesome!" **PHOTO: Twin Sisters spires** 

#### Montana Youth Engaged in Service

Montana teens from nine towns are improving their communities and environment during their summer vacations! Across the state, more than 100 teens are contributing a total of 21,000 volunteer hours. For example, teens in Kalispell are helping the <u>Flathead National Forest</u> complete amphibian surveys while Lincoln county teens are maintaining <u>Kootenai National Forest</u> trails. Youth from Billings are building affordable housing and other youth crews are participating in a <u>Yellowstone River</u> clean-up stretching 550 miles. **PHOTO: MontanaYES crew from Libby** 



### Wild West Style



After removing weeds at Devils Tower National Monument, this MCC crew from Billings helped at the <u>Old Settlers Picnic</u>, a revived 1930s tradition celebrated on Fathers' Day. Let the spirit of the West live on!

#### CDTA and MCC Build America's Backbone



The MCC is proud to announce the onset of a dynamic new partnership with the Continental Divide Trail Alliance. The Alliance contributed nearly \$45,000 to host a summer-long CDTA Youth Corps crew on the Montana section of this national treasure. With 70 percent of the 3,100-mile trail completed, the CDTA Youth Corps is doing its part to see this

project to completion. In the end, the trail will reach from Mexico to Canada! The young adult crew, which hit the trail on June 18, will spend nine weeks in places like <u>Glacier National Park</u>, the Anaconda-Pintler Wilderness Area, and around Homestake Pass near Butte, MT. **PHOTO:** Courtesy of <u>Montana Standard</u>

Community Support: \$10,000 Commitment

The Dennis and Phyllis
Washington Foundation
awarded the MCC \$10,000 to
serve Montana youth this
summer. It has funded teen
service-learning through the
MCC for five years.

## Spotlight: Alumnus Bill Schenk



MCC alum Bill Schenk (crew leader '96) is now a Dept. of FWP attorney and a *People Magazine* "Lean, Green, ecocrusader" bachelor.